Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 129427 ORIGIN ARA-02

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 VO-02 /005 R

DRAFTED BY ARA/CCA-DEHENDERSON:DPB APPROVED BY ARA/CCA-ADBOWEN ARA/AND-WSERGEANT ARA/CAR-JGRIFFITH ARA/PAN-DWAGNER SCA/VO-JOLENIK

-----078808 221803Z /46

R 221552Z MAY 78 FM SECSTATE WASHDC TO USINT HAVANA

CONFIDENTIAL STATE 129427

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: SREM, CU, US, CVIS

SUBJECT: EXIT ROUTES OF CUBAN REFUGEES

REF: A) 77 STATE 008117 (NOTAL) B) 77 HAVANA 411 (NOTAL)

FOLOWING IS A REPEAT

QUOTE

R 240256Z FEB 78

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USINT HAVANA

AMEMBASSY MEXICO

AMEMBASSY KINGSTON

AMEMBASSY MADRID

1. FAMILIES OF SEVERAL CUBAN REFUGEES HAVE COMPLAINED TO DEPARTMENT THAT THEIR RELATIVES HAVE BEEN REQUIRED TO EXIT CUBA VIA SPAIN OR JAMAICA. DEPARTMENT IS ALSO AWARE OF ONE CONFIDENTIAL

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CASE IN WHICH AN AMERICAN CITIZEN COMING TO US FOR TEMPORARY VISIT WAS REPORTEDLY NOT ALLOWED TO TRAVEL ROUTE DESIRED. UPON INVESTIGATION IN ONE IV CASE (REF A), RELATIVES DISCOVERED THEY WERE GIVEN AUTHORIZATION TO DEPART THROUGH JAMAICA BECAUSE THEY HAD REQUESTED THAT ROUTE WHEN MAKING

APPLICATION FOR EXIT PERMITS YEARS AGO.

- 2. DEPARTMENT REQUESTS SOURCE AND CLARIFICATION OF STATE-MENT IN REF B THAT CUBAN EMIGREES MAY TRAVEL TO US VIA ANY THIRD COUNTRY WHICH WILL PERMIT THEIR TRANSIT THROUGH ITS TERRITORY. WHILE EXITING THROUGH JAMAICA WOULD NOT SEEM TO PRESENT PROBLEM TO EITHER EMIGREES OR US GOVERNMENT, ASSUMING IMMIGRANTS LANDED WITH US ENTRY DOCUMENTS. DEPART-MENT IS CONCERNED OVER COST OF EXITING VIA SPAIN. NOT ONLY IS THERE SUBSTANTIAL DIFFERENCE IN AIR FARES (\$885) HAVANA-MADRID-MIAMI AS COMPARED TO \$156 HAVANA-MERIDA-MIAMI). EXPENSES FOR TEMPORARY LODGINGS ARE GREATER IN SPAIN. IT IS NOT CLEAR WHETHER THIS SITUATION EXISTS DUE TO GOC POLICY DECISION OR RESULTS SIMPLY FROM UNCORRECTED BLIP IN SYSTEM. ONE OBVIOUS REASON FOR REQUIRING EXIT THROUGH SPAIN IS COST OF FLIGHT. REFUGEES HAVE TOLD US THEY ARE "ENCOURAGED" TO FLY CUBANA, AND ARE NOT IN FRAME OF MIND TO DO ANYTHING WHICH IS NOT SUGGESTED.
- 3. REVENUE PRODUCING RATIONAL DOES NOT HOWEVER, EXPLAIN WHY AMCIT MENTIONED ABOVE WAS TOLD SHE DID NOT HAVE ENOUGH MONEY TO TRANSIT VENEZUELA TO VISIT HER RELATIVES, BUT HAD TO TRANSIT PANAMA. PLEASE ADVISE DEPARTMENT OF POSSIBILITY OF INCREASING FUNDS ON DEPOSIT WITH CUBANS OR OF RECEIVING REFUNDS OF MONEY DEPOSITED YEARS BEFORE PRESENT ROUTES WERE POSSIBLE.

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4. FOR MEXICO AND KINGSTON. PLEASE CONFIRM THAT HOST GOVERNMENTS WILL ALLOW CUBANS DOCUMENTED FOR ENTRY TO US TO TRANSIT TERRITORY. ALSO INFORM US OF PROCEDURE FOR OBTAINING THESE VISAS AND ANY POTENTIAL DIFFICULTIES. VANCE. UNQUOTE.

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PAGE 01 STATE 129427 ORIGIN ARA-04 INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /005 R

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DRAFTED BY ARA/CCA:DEHENDERSON APPROVED BY ARA/CCA:WSSMITH

-----090234 231755Z /46

R 231730Z MAY 78 FM SECSTATE WASHDC TO AMEMBASSY CARACAS AMEMBASSY PANAMA AMEMBASSY BRIDGETOWN

CONFIDENTIAL STATE 129427

FOLLOWING REPEAT STATE 129427 ACTION HAVANA MAY 22.

QUOTE ONFIDENTIAL STATE 129427

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

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UNQUOTE VANCE UNQUOTE VANCE

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Retention: 0

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Subject: EXIT ROUTES OF CUBAN REFUGEES

TAGS: SREF, CVIS, CU, US

To: HAVANA Type: TE

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Review Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

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